(c) whether Government have examined the recommendations; and

(d) if so, by when Government propose to take action on the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) The Working Group constituted by Government to review the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 under the Chairmanship of Shri M.V.S. Chellapathi Rao, Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has not so far submitted its report.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Medium term loan to Rajasthan

1436. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Rajasthan has approached the Central Government for sanction of a medium term loan to the State so as to remove the recurring problem of entering into overdrafts; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal received and the decision taken thereon and/or the present status of its consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rajasthan had sent a proposal to the Government of India to extend a medium term loan or allot extra market borrowings equivalent to the State's revenue deficit as on 31st March, 2002 in order to remove the State's problems of recurring overdrafts. The proposal was not agreed to.

Payment of salaries through banks

†1437. SHRI HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even in today's computerized age payments of salary to the employees of all Government departments including railways is made in cash;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to issue an order to all their departments to make payments through banks; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) Disbursement of monthly salary to Gazetted Officers and Staff is made by individual cheque or cash depending on the options exercised by them in the month of March every year.

(b) If the Government servants opt for cash payment, the DDO is required to make payment in cash.

(c) Provisions already exist in Central Government Accounts (Receipt and Payment) Rules, 1983 and Civil Accounts Manual that in the case of individual officers and staff who wish to receive their salary by cheque and have opened an account in a bank in the vicinity of their office, payment of salary in such cases can be credied to their respective accounts.

(d) In view of (c) above, not applicable.

Ban on share transaction of companies

†1438. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Stock Exchange has banned the transaction in the shares of 24 companies recently;

(b) if so, the details of those companies; and

(c) the reasons for banning the transactions in the shares of each company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) has intimated that NSE had issued suspension notice stating that trading in the equity shares of 24 companies shall be suspended *w.e.f.* June 27, 2002 for non-compliance with provisions

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.